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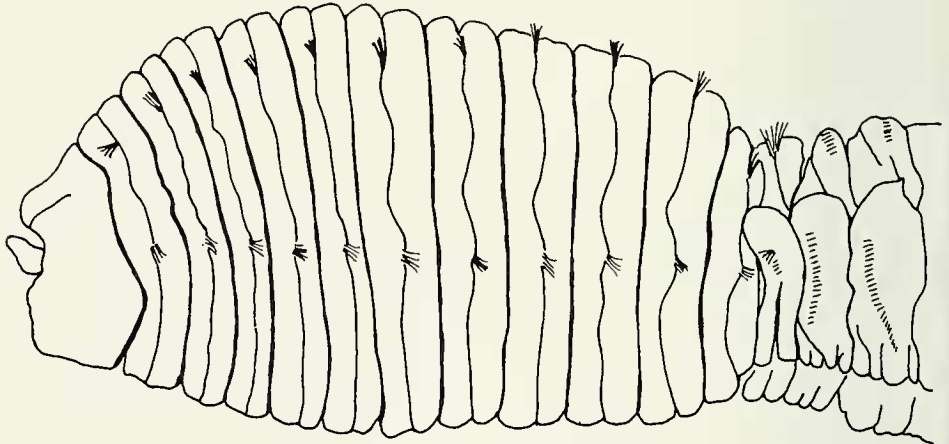
A New Genus and Species of Capitellidae (Polychaeta) from California

A new genus and species of Capitellidae has been found off the coast of southern California. This genus differs from the other genera in the family by having 11 thoracic setigers and one abdominal setiger with capillary setae. In reference to the number of setigers bearing capillary setae, the new form may be known as:

Dodecaseta n. gen.

Diagnosis.—Thorax with 11 segments; peristomium asetigerous, following 11 segments bear capillary setae in both rami; first abdominal notopodium with capillary setae; neuropodium bearing all capillary setae, all rostrate uncini, or mixture of both; rest of abdominal setigers with rostrate uncini in both rami; abdominal branchiae present.

Dodecaseta most closely resembles *Notadasus* in the number of thoracic segments and setigers, but differs in having a biramous first thoracic setiger and capillary setae in the first abdominal segment. *Dodecaseta* differs from *Notamastus* in having capillary setae on the first abdominal segment. *Rashgua* lacks abdominal notouncini, and *Mastobranhus* has two setigers with mixed rostrate and capillary setae. *Dodecaseta* has 11 thoracic setigers; *Leiochrides* has 12. *Scyphoproctus* has 12 to 14 thoracic setigers, and has an asetigerous segment following the peristomium (Fauchald, 1977).



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Fig. 1. Lateral view of anterior end. *Dodecaseta oraria*, n. sp.

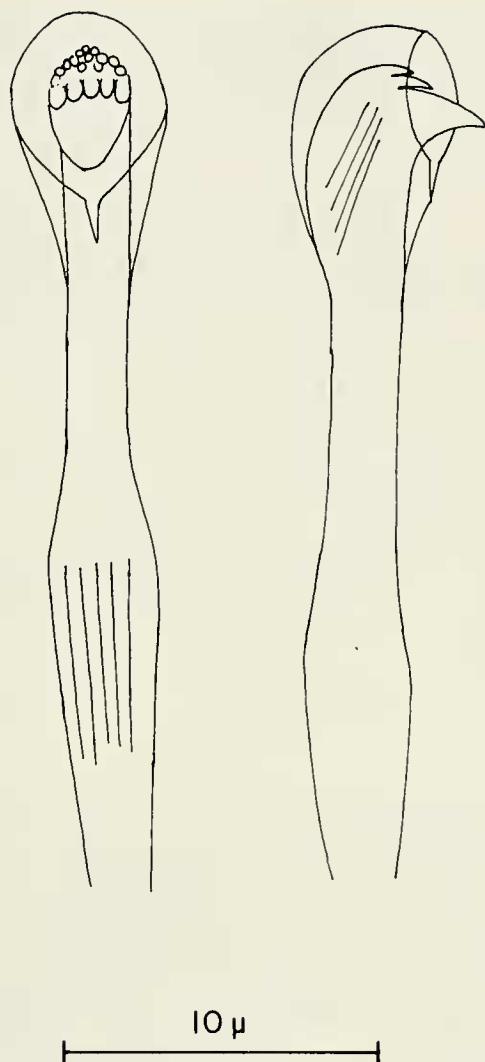


Fig. 2. Ventrolateral view of branchiate, posterior abdominal segments. *Dodecaseta oraria*, n. sp.

Dodecaseta oraria, n. sp.

Material examined.—Twelve specimens from 30 to 180 m off Palos Verdes, California. The holotype and two paratypes are deposited in the collections of the Allan Hancock Foundation.

Description of holotype.—Specimen incomplete with about 85 setigers, 15 mm long and 1.4 mm wide in anterior thoracic region; thoracic region smooth, segments closely biannulate (Fig. 1); anterior abdominal segments longer and annulation becoming less distinct posteriorly.

Triangular prostomium small with pair of faint, lateral eyes and short, digitate terminal palpode; prostomium almost concealed by collar-like peristomium; peristomium asetigerous, clearly separated from first setiger.

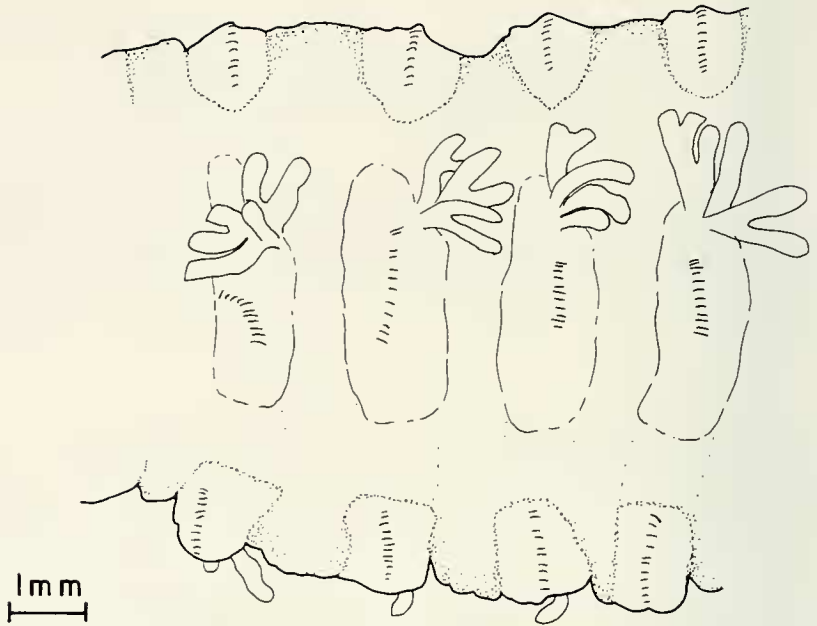


Fig. 3. Frontal and lateral views of abdominal hooded uncini.

Thoracic setigers all biramous and strongly biannulate, with deep intrasegmental furrows from which pointed, bilimbate setae emerge; thorax blunt, broadest about setiger 5; setigers 10 and 11 tapering abruptly to narrow waist (Fig. 1).

First abdominal setiger biannulate, wider than last thoracic setiger; notopodial fascicle slightly more dorsal than thoracic notopodia; notosetae all pointed and bilimbate; neurosetae mixed, dorsal setae in fascicle bilimbate, ventral setae hooded rostrate uncini; each uncinus with slender subdistally expanded shaft; large fang surmounted by crest of four to five subapical teeth in a row, and about 10 small apical teeth in variable arrangement; hood short with smooth edge (Fig. 2).

Dorsal wall of median and posterior abdominal segments thin; gut contents readily visible; ventrum of each abdominal segment muscular, bearing large neuropodial torus on its postero-lateral half; small notosetal fascicle seated on indistinct torus, separated from neuropodium by projecting nephridial pore; notopodia well separated medially; all abdominal setae rostrate uncini, except for first abdominal setiger.

Eversible branchiae complexly palmate, occurring in posterior abdominal setigers only; branchiae inserted at postero-dorsal corners of neuropodial tori (Fig. 3).

The pygidium is missing from the holotype.

Remarks.—The first abdominal neuropodium of *D. oraria* may bear all capillary setae, all rostrate uncini, or a mixture of both. A single specimen bears capillary setae in the second abdominal notopodium also. The last thoracic capillary setae usually point posteriad, those of the first abdominal setiger usually are directed

anteriad; the setae may meet or cross each other. Branchiae may be retractile, as they are often not observed or appear to be digitate.

Distribution.—*Dodecaseta oraria* has been collected in olive silts and sandy silts at depths of 30 to 180 m off the Palos Verdes Peninsula, Los Angeles, California.

Etymology.—The name *oraria* means belonging to the coast.

Acknowledgments

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